

Weekly Views

September 16, 2011

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) successfully passed an audit for re-accreditation with the American Correctional Association (ACA). ISP scored a perfect 100 percent on mandatory standards and a 98.6 percent on non-mandatory national standards. Superintendent William K. Wilson is appreciative to staff for their dedication and hard work leading up to the audit. "The auditors were very complimentary of our staff and their degree of professionalism. We have a lot to be proud of and that was evident to the audit team members" stated Superintendent Wilson.

MSNBC's Lockup/Wabash Valley/Extended Stay on location production has now ended. The crew spent 53 days (long 12 hour days per PIO Rich Larsen) at WVCF from March through September, interviewing offenders and staff for six, one hour programs. The shows are due to air on MSNBC late this year or early in 2012.

Staff and offenders at the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) are busy raising funds for the Wabash Valley Race for the Cure. Staff members are currently being "pinked" for the cure. When they receive a decorated boot from an anonymous friend, they must make a donation to move the boot to another staff member. The facility will also have a cupcake war and bake sale with staff member entries to be judged by the Parke County Home Extension Office. Offenders at RCF will be holding a two hour walk for the cure on Saturday, October 1.

Thirteen offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility were recognized as the first graduates of the Doctor Dad program. Coordinated by Case Manager Dwaine Short, the curriculum for the three week program included lecture and hands on instruction in the use of thermometers, diapers, formula, and child safety equipment.

PEN Products engaged IN State Surplus to sell its Pendleton Correctional Facility Farm equipment at public auction. The auction attracted 121 registered bidders from Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky, and was considered a success. The line-up of equipment auctioned varied from grain drying equipment, farm tractors, grain and vegetable field production equipment and cattle gates. PEN Products will maintain its Pendleton Farm hay enterprise. PEN Products thanks Superintendent Butts and staff and Construction Services staff for their much appreciated help in preparing for the sale.

The Westville Correctional Facility proudly announces the promotion of two staff members to the rank of Correctional Captain. Newly promoted Captains, William Cody and Otis Thompson, "are representatives of the character and moral fabric the facility supports," stated Superintendent Levenhagen. The facility has not promoted someone to the captain position since 2004.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility held a cook-out pitch-in fundraiser and raised \$212 through staff donations to benefit the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV). The ICADV works to eliminate domestic violence through the implementation of prevention programs including public education, advocacy for system and societal change, influencing public policy and allocation of resources.

Two Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility students were escorted off-grounds to complete a Restorative Justice Project at the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility donated baby blankets, made by the offender population, to the American Red Cross (ARC) of Greater Indianapolis. Mrs. Terry Held, from the ARC, received the baby blankets and was very appreciative of the facility's effort to help. The American Red Cross provides transportation for Marion County residents who do not have reliable transportation to their medical appointments. Some of those residents are expectant mothers and (ARC) furnishes them with a gift bag with various items to help them in their time of need.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility's PLUS unit donated \$1000 to Sheltering Wings, an organization in Hendricks County housing abused women and children from Hendricks County and neighboring counties.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Department of Labor Apprenticeship Graduation along with Pen Products for 32 graduates.

The Chain O' Lakes (COL) Correctional Facility community advisory board got together for its quarterly meeting. Superintendent Griffin asked those members who benefit from offender work crews or witness an exceptional job being done, to consider nominating the Officer in charge for COL Employee of the Quarter. All members were invited to the facility's upcoming volunteer recognition day.

Fifteen criminology students and Professor Jamie Houston from Ivy Tech College toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The tour was conducted by Case Manager Melissa Langdon and Captain Troy Keith who relayed information regarding facility operations and programming.